grant period, according to the table in paragraph (a)(1) of this section.

- (3) A State commission may meet its match based on the aggregate of its grantees' individual match requirements.
- (b) Alternative match requirements: If your program is unable to meet the match requirements as required in

paragraph (a) of this section, and is located in a rural or a severely economically distressed community, you may apply to the Corporation for a waiver that would require you to increase the overall amount of your share of program costs beginning in the seventh consecutive year that you receive a grant, according to the following table:

	Year 1 (per- cent)	Year 2 (per- cent)	Year 3 (per- cent)	Year 4 (per- cent)	Year 5 (per- cent)	Year 6 (per- cent)	Year 7 (per- cent)	Year 8 (per- cent)	Year 9 (per- cent)	Year 10 (per- cent)
Minimum member support	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
Minimum operating costs	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33
Minimum overall share	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	29	31	33	35

- (c) Determining Program Location. (1) The Corporation will determine whether your program is located in a rural county by considering the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Beale Codes.
- (2) The Corporation will determine whether your program is located in a severely economically distressed county by considering unemployment rates, per capita income, and poverty rates.
- (3) Unless the Corporation approves otherwise, as provided in paragraph (c)(4) of this section, the Corporation will determine the location of your program based on the legal applicant's address.
- (4) If you believe that the legal applicant's address is not the appropriate way to consider the location of your program, you may request the waiver described in paragraph (b) of this section and provide the relevant facts about your program location to support your request.
- (d) Schedule for current program grants: If you have completed at least one three-year grant cycle on the date this regulation takes effect, you will be required to provide your share of costs beginning at the year three level, according to the table in paragraph (a) of this section, in the first program year in your grant following the regulation's effective date, and increasing each year thereafter as reflected in the table.
- (e) Flexibility in how you provide your share: As long as you meet the basic match requirements in §2521.45, you may use cash or in-kind contributions to reach the overall share level. For ex-

- ample, if your organization finds it easier to raise member support match, you may choose to meet the required overall match by raising only more member support match, and leave operational match at the basic level, as long as you provide the required overall match.
- (f) Reporting excess resources. (1) The Corporation encourages you to obtain support over-and-above the matching fund requirements. Reporting these resources may make your application more likely to be selected for funding, based on the selection criteria in \$\\$ 2522.430 and \$2522.435 of these regulations.
- (2) You must comply with §2543.23 of this title and applicable OMB circulars in documenting cash and in-kind contributions and excess resources.

 $[70~{\rm FR}~39598,~{\rm July}~8,~2005]$

§ 2521.70 To what extent may the Corporation waive the matching requirements in §§ 2521.45 and 2521.60 of this part?

- (a) The Corporation may waive, in whole or in part, the requirements of §§ 2521.45 and 2521.60 of this part if the Corporation determines that a waiver would be equitable because of a lack of available financial resources at the local level.
- (b) If you are requesting a waiver, you must demonstrate:
- (1) The lack of resources at the local level;
- (2) That the lack of resources in your local community is unique or unusual;

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- (3) The efforts you have made to raise matching resources; and
- (4) The amount of matching resources you have raised or reasonably expect to raise.
- (c) You must provide with your waiver request:
- (1) A request for the specific amount of match you are requesting that the Corporation waive: and
- (2) A budget and budget narrative that reflects the requested level in matching resources.

[70 FR 39598, July 8, 2005]

§ 2521.80 What matching level applies if my program was funded in the past but has not recently received an AmeriCorps grant?

- (a) If you have not been a direct recipient of an AmeriCorps operational grant from the Corporation or a State commission for five years or more, as determined by the end date of your most recent grant period, you may begin matching at the year one level, as reflected in the timetable in §2521.60(a) of this part, upon receiving your new grant award.
- (b) If you have not been a direct recipient of an AmeriCorps operational grant from the Corporation or a State commission for fewer than five years, you must begin matching at the same level you were matching at the end of your most recent grant period.

[70 FR 39598, July 8, 2005]

§ 2521.90 If I am a new or replacement legal applicant for an existing program, what will my matching requirements be?

If your organization is a new or replacement legal applicant for an existing program, you must provide matching resources at the level the previous legal applicant had reached at the time you took over the program.

[70 FR 39598, July 8, 2005]

§ 2521.95 To what extent may I use grant funds for administrative costs?

(a) Not more than five percent of the grant funds provided under this part for any fiscal year may be used to pay for administrative costs, as defined in §2510.20 of this chapter.

- (b) The distribution of administrative costs between the grant and any subgrant will be subject to the approval of the Corporation.
- (c) In applying the limitation on administrative costs the Corporation will approve one of the following methods in the award document:
- (1) Limit the amount or rate of indirect costs that may be paid with Corporation funds under a grant or subgrant to five percent of total Corporation funds expended, provided that—
- (i) Organizations that have an established indirect cost rate for Federal awards will be limited to this method; and
- (ii) Unreimbursed indirect costs may be applied to meeting operational matching requirements under the Corporation's award;
- (2) Specify that a fixed rate of five percent or less (not subject to supporting cost documentation) of total Corporation funds expended may be used to pay for administrative costs, provided that the fixed rate is in conjunction with an overall 15 percent administrative cost factor to be used for organizations that do not have established indirect cost rates; or
- (3) Utilize such other method that the Corporation determines in writing is consistent with OMB guidance and other applicable requirements, helps minimize the burden on grantees or subgrantees, and is beneficial to grantees or subgrantees and the Federal Government.

[70 FR 39598, July 8, 2005]

PART 2522—AMERICORPS PARTICI-PANTS, PROGRAMS, AND APPLI-CANTS

Sec.

Subpart A—Minimum Requirements and Program Types

2522.10 What definitions apply to this part? 2522.100 What are the minimum requirements that AmeriCorps subtitle C grantees must meet?

2522.110 What types of programs are eligible to compete for AmeriCorps grants?